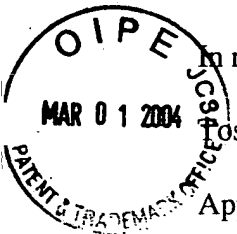


**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



In re application of

Docket No: Q63928

Toshio YAGIHASHI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/825,337

Group Art Unit: 3627

Confirmation No.: 1780

Examiner: Gerald J. O'CONNOR

Filed: April 4, 2001

For: COMMERCIAL SALES SYSTEM AND METHOD USING NETWORK

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**


Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 1, 2004

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Akira Kamoshida, Chapter 10 "Shopping Life Navigator" Strategy, Finance e-business Revolution, Japan, Nikkan Kogyo Shinbunsha, January 30, 2000, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, pages 203-213.

2. Mitsuyo Arimoto, "Online outdoor product sales," Internet Business Schemes Illustrated, Japan, K.K. Asa Shuppan, October 29, 1999, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, pages 175-178.

3. Masahiro Nakagaw, "Building your electronic mall" (from January 7 Nikkei Sangyo Shimbun article), Gekkan Computer Digest, Japan, TAC Kikaku Ltd., March 10, 2000, Vol. 26, No. 3, page 98.
4. Kentaro Fujimoto, "Portal site business: A new age for the Internet - Trials and errors of building a new model" Nikkei PC 21, Japan, Nikkei BP-Sha, March 1, 1999, Vol. 4, No. 3, pages 172-175.
5. ValueCommerce Co., Ltd. "Online advertising and sales network building program for e-commerce," Nikkei Joho Strategy, Japan, Nikkei BP-Sha, March 24, 2000, Vol. 9, No. 3, pages 128-129.
6. Rie Yamada and Hiroyuki Umeda, "A Lesson in the tricks of web shopping sites," ASCII network PRO, Japan, ASCII Corporation, February 1, 2000, Vol. 5, No. 2, pages 209-224.
7. Makoto Akai, "Electronic settlement and merchant server systems" Back OFFICE MAGAZINE, Japan, CQ Shuppan Co., Ltd., April 1, 1999, Vol. 3, No. 4, pages 60-59.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

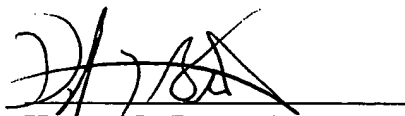
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese

Office Action dated December 2, 2003 and an English language translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the Japanese Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 1, 2004